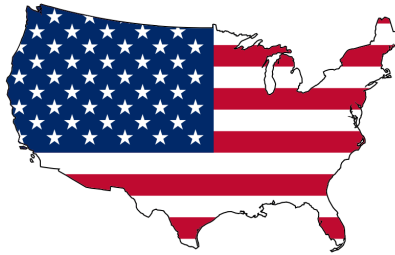


# United States Embassy Macedonia

## Presents Newsletter *C O L L A G E*



*Global articles for your interest  
Issue 9*

*July 1 - July 16, 2011*

### **Contents:**

#### **1. Clinton Says More Effort Needed to Combat Religious Intolerance**

Secretary Clinton says the United States plans to host a series of meetings later in 2011 to discuss ways of moving forward the international effort to end the “false divide that pits religious sensitivities against freedom of expression.”...

#### **2. U.S. Trade Deficit Hits Highest Level Since 2008**

The U.S. trade deficit has surged to its highest level in almost three years, driven largely by an increase in the cost of imported crude oil.

#### **3. U.S., Russia Sign Agreements on Adoption, Plutonium Disposal**

Among other agreements signed in Washington July 13, Russia and the United States will each dispose of 34 metric tons of weapons-grade plutonium, which is the equivalent of approximately 17,000 nuclear weapons.

#### **4. Foreign Aid Supports U.S. Economic Growth, Clinton Says**

Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton thinks foreign aid should rank beside defense and diplomacy as an element of foreign policy, and she’s asking an important advocacy group to support that goal.

#### **5. Folklife Festival Celebrates Global Impact of Peace Corps**

Organic farming, basket weaving, wine, textiles, plastic bottles and shea butter were all on display at the 2011 Smithsonian Folklife Festival in Washington. Each represented an important cultural tradition turned into economic opportunity with help from Peace Corps volunteers.

#### **6. NASA Plans New Future for Space Program as Shuttle Era Ends**

The head of the U.S. space agency goes to the House of Representatives to explain his plans for taking human spaceflight to the next level. And astronauts on board the shuttle Atlantis conduct a spacewalk, the last such operation in the 30-year history of the program.

**In case you missed it:**

**U.S. Embassy Macedonia [Facebook](#) page**

**U.S. Embassy Macedonia [Youtube channel](#) **



### **U.S-EU Unfinished Business in the Balkans**

Under Secretary William J. Burns (Croatia Summit, July 8, 2011): "All of the countries of the Western Balkans have committed themselves to the European project. All are agreed that European and Euro-Atlantic integration represent the best path forward for the region. " ...



### **Ambassador Celebrates Independence Day**

Ambassador Reeker: "When we think of Macedonia, we will recall the schools and clinics we renovated; the preservation of priceless treasures like the Daut Pasha Hamam, the mosaics and frescoes of ..." ...

**ALSO:** [video](#) [photos](#)



### **Independence Day Message 2011**

[Clinton's and Obama's Independence Day Message 2011]  
- President Obama: "Today is a day to celebrate the very essence of America-the spirit and freedoms that have defined us as a people for more than two centuries and that have inspired countless others around the world." ...

**ALSO:** [video](#)



## **KEMET invests \$25 million**

Ambassador Reeker: "Promoting economic growth and development in Macedonia has been a long-standing priority for the United States, and part of our Declaration of Strategic Partnership." ...

**ALSO:** [story](#) [video](#) [photos](#)

- **2012 DV Lottery Entrant Status Check**

The Department has posted the new results of the DV-2012 random selection process on the [dvlottery.state.gov](http://dvlottery.state.gov) website. ...

**For All Embassy News go to:** <http://macedonia.usembassy.gov>

**Small Grants information:** <http://macedonia.usembassy.gov/grants.html>

**American Educational Exchange information:** <http://macedonia.usembassy.gov/educational-exchange2.html>

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